

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01444 301548Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SSC-01 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04

SIL-01 /095 W

-----013724 301749Z /72

R 261908Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5435

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1444

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SC

SUBJECT: SPECULATION ON THE POLITICAL FUTURE IN ST. KITTS BEGINS

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1417

1. AS STATE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBERT BRADSHAW BECOME FINAL FOR THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 31, SPECULATION ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP OF ST. KITTS-NEVIS HAS BEGUN. C.A. PAUL SOUTHWELL, BRADSHAW'S DEPUTY PREMIER, WAS SWORN IN AS PREMIER ON MAY 24 BY GOVERNOR SIR PROBYN INNIS. FEW OBSERVERS EXPECT SOUTHWELL TO HOLD THE PREMIERSHIP FOR MUCH LONGER THAN A FEW MONTHS, HOWEVER, GIVEN SOUTHWELL'S PRIVATELY EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR RETIREMENT (EVEN BEFORE THE BRADSHAW DEATH) AND THE YOUNGER, MORE AMBITIOUS MEMBERS OF THE RULING ST. KITTS LABOUR PARTY.

2. SOUTHWELL'S NAME IS FOLLOWED BY THOSE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRIDGE 01444 301548Z

LEE MOORE AND EDUCATION MINISTER FITZROY BRYANT ON THE PLAUSIBLE LIST FOR LEADERSHIP, BUT MOORE IS ALMOST UNIVERSALLY ACKNOWLEDGED AS BRADSHAW'S PERMANENT SUCCESSOR. SOUTHWELL IS OVER 60 YEARS OLD BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY IS A DOMINICAN BY BIRTH AND RELIED ON BRADSHAW'S PERSONAL BACKING FOR HIS SUCCESS IN ST. KITTS POLITICS. BRYANT IS, LIKEWISE, AN ANTIGUAN BY BIRTH. CURRENT TALK IN ST.

KITTS INDICATES THAT THIS FACT ALONE PRECLUDES
SERIOUS CONSIDERATION OF BRYANT FOR THE TOP, AS
OPPOSED TO ONE OF THE TOP, JOBS.

3. LEE MOORE HAS FOR YEARS BEEN MENTIONED AS THE MOST
LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO BRADSHAW. MOORE HAS A SOLID FOLLOWING
IN THE ST. KITTS TRADES AND LABOUR UNION (THE BASE FROM
WHICH BRADSHAW BUILT HIS POLITICAL PARTY) AND IS
NOTED AS AN OPEN AND INTELLIGENT LEADER. WHILE
BRADSHAW WAS SERIOUSLY ILL, MOORE ADDED THE EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO TO HIS RESPONSIBILITIES. HE IS
CAPABLE AND AN ACCOMPLISHED POLITICIAN. BRYANT,
ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS HIS SERIOUS DETRACTORS WITHIN THE
PARTY, THE BODY THAT WILL EVENTUALLY SETTLE THE
LEADERSHIP QUESTION IN THE MODIFIED WESTMINSTER
SYSTEM IN ST. KITTS.

4. EMBASSY OFFICER IN ST. KITTS AT THE TIME OF BRADSHAW'S
DEATH INDICATES THAT EVERYTHING REMAINS QUIET BOTH IN
ST. KITTS AND WOULD-BE-SECESSIONIST NEVIS.
ORTIZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEATH IN OFFICE, ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRIDGE01444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780226-0274
Format: TEL
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780516/aaaaanag.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3a643096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BRIDGETOWN 1417
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2557023
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECULATION ON THE POLITICAL FUTURE IN ST. KITTS BEGINS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, SC, (BRADSHAW, ROBERT), (SOUTHWELL, C A PAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3a643096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014